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Agenda item 152

Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Anna **Sotaniemi** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly at the request of the United Republic of Tanzania, on behalf of Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2004, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 5 and 7 October 2004. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/59/SR.2 and 3).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 15 April 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/142).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/59/L.5

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 5 October, the representative of Botswana, on behalf of Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, subsequently joined by Uganda and

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the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/59/L.5).

6. At its 3rd meeting, on 7 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/59/L.5 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Venezuela made a statement in explanation of position (see A/C.6/59/SR.3).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Observer status for the Southern African Development Community in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community,

1. *Decides* to invite the Southern African Development Community to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.